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12 OCT 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Colby

SUBJECT: CIA COINS Task Force

I understand that you have decided to form a task force within the Agency to advise you on what the objectives of the COINS system should be and how the Agency should participate in the program. I would like to propose that you include on the task force, two outside consultants: John Griffith of IBM and Anthony Oettinger of Harvard. Both men have worked closely with [redacted] on COINS and, with Bill, have been critics of Agency participation. Including them as a part of this effort would do two things: first, it would provide your task force with expert advice about computers and their applications to storage and retrieval problems; and second, it would assure you that the task force addresses every point of concern to PFIAB and takes due consideration of the Board's point of view. STAT

The COINS issue has been a major point of difference between the Board and the Agency over the years and much of the problem, in my opinion, can be attributed to an incomplete understanding of [redacted] criticisms. Much of this is due to the difficulty [redacted] has in articulating his concerns and we cannot do much about that. However, we can pick his thoughts in detail by including his two closest consultants in your internal review. STAT

[redacted]
Associate Deputy Director
for
Science and Technology

cc: General Walters
Mr. Proctor
Mr. Brownman
General Graham

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